



**TOWN OF NAGS HEAD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE INSTITUTION OF TOLLS
(OR THE INCREASE IN EXISTING TOLLS)
ON FERRY SERVICE OPERATIONS TO AND FROM OCRACOKE ISLAND**

WHEREAS, Ocracoke Island, located in Hyde County, is the State's only barrier island with no alternate form of public transportation infrastructure provided to them in return for the payment of State tax dollars; AND

WHEREAS, the continuance of a toll-free ferry service is guaranteed to residents in North Carolina by General Statute 136-89.197; AND

WHEREAS, Hyde County is among the poorest counties in North Carolina as indicated by their Tier 1 designation; AND

WHEREAS, placing tolls and/or increasing tolls on existing ferry service would create a financial hardship for local residents, and would impede their ability to obtain supplies and other services necessary to maintain their quality of life; AND

WHEREAS, the Town of Nags Head Board of Commissioners opposes placing tolls and/or increasing tolls on existing ferry service for the residents of Ocracoke Island and the suppliers of goods to the Island; AND

WHEREAS, tourism is the leading industry on Ocracoke Island and the addition or increase of tolls, coupled with decreased ferry runs, would threaten the capability of businesses and working families to earn a living; AND

WHEREAS, this loss in revenue to the citizens of Hyde County would also result in loss of revenue to the State of North Carolina, and would negatively impact the economy, the cultural, and the overall well-being of the entire State; AND

WHEREAS, 6,013 acres of Ocracoke Island's total acreage of 6,429 acres is part of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore and is owned by the Federal Government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Nags Head Board of Commissioners strongly opposes imposing new tolls on ferry service to or from Ocracoke Island, and does also oppose the increase of tolls on said ferry service, and does oppose any decrease in the level of ferry service to and from Ocracoke Island, North Carolina.

ADOPTED this the 4th day of April 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.O. Oakes, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert O. Oakes, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn F. Morris", is written over a horizontal line.
Carolyn F. Morris, Town Clerk